



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

<p>(51) International Patent Classification ⁷ : H04L 12/66, 12/28</p>	<p>A1</p>	<p>(11) International Publication Number: WO 00/45557 (43) International Publication Date: 3 August 2000 (03.08.00)</p>
<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/01595 (22) International Filing Date: 21 January 2000 (21.01.00) (30) Priority Data: 09/240,435 29 January 1999 (29.01.99) US (71) Applicant: INTERNATIONAL THINKLINK CORPORATION [US/US]; ITC-9908, Suite 350, 650 Townsend Street, San Francisco, CA 94103 (US). (72) Inventor: O'NEAL, Stephen, C.; 3663 Clay Street, San Francisco, CA 94118 (US). (74) Agent: NGUYEN, Joseph, A.; Beyer Weaver Thomas & Nguyen, LLP, P.O. Box 130, Mountain View, CA 94040 (US).</p>		<p>(81) Designated States: JP, European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published With international search report.</p>

(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR DEVICE INDEPENDENT MESSAGING NOTIFICATION

(57) Abstract

An apparatus and method for alerting a user upon receipt of selected messages, independent of the type of device generating the message is provided. Message generating devices include telephony devices (telephone, fax machine, etc.), or data devices such as a computer or PDA (404). All messages are converted into a format compatible with a data network (418) for delivery to a web server (422). The web server includes a message notification system (432) with message alert type selection and incoming message filtering. A user designates, either from a computer, or from a telephone, the types of messages for which s/he wishes to be alerted, and designates one or more device types (email address, fax machine, pager number, or telephone number) to receive the alert. When messages are received by the web server, they are distinguished by message type, and filtered according to the user defined criteria. Selected messages cause a message alert to be generated to the user configured devices.

